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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,050	10/29/2003	William Alan Powers	30735-00004USPT	5827
7590 12/30/2004		EXAMINER		
Ross T. Robinson, Esq.			NICHOLSON, ERIC K	
Jenkens & Gilo A Professional			ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER	
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 3200			3679	
Dallas, TX 75202-2799			DATE MAILED: 12/30/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)	m			
	10/696,050	POWERS ET AL.				
│ 	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Eric K Nicholson	3679				
The MAILING DATE of this communication Period for Reply	appears on the cover sheet with the	correspondence addres	5S			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RE THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATIO - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFf after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory pe - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by st Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the m earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	N. R 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be to reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day not will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from atute, cause the application to become ABANDON	imely filed ays will be considered timely. In the mailing date of this commu ED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	unication.			
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _						
2a) This action is FINAL . 2b) ⊠ 1	This action is non-final.					
• • •	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposition of Claims						
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-15</u> is/are pending in the applicate 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are with 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-15</u> is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) □ Claim(s) are subject to restriction are	drawn from consideration.					
Application Papers						
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Exam	niner.					
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to	the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. S	ee 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the con						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for fore a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority docum 2. Certified copies of the priority docum 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority docum application from the International But * See the attached detailed Office action for a	nents have been received. Itents have been received in Applicatoriority documents have been received in PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	tion No ved in this National Sta	ıge			
Attachment(s)						
 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SE Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4-26-04</u>. 			2)			

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Art Unit: 3679

DETAILED ACTION

Objection to the Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the

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claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the

following is required: The subject matter of claims 6 and 13 does not appear to be described to

the degree claimed in the specification.

Claim Rejections -35 USC § 112

Claims 7 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention. In claim 7 and claim 10 the term "dovetail arrangement"

appears indefinite as it is unclear where or what the "arrangement" is. In claim 7 it is not stated

whether the "arrangement" is on the pin or box member and in claim 10 it is unclear how this

"arrangement" forms part of the invention since claim 10 is merely claiming the box member

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

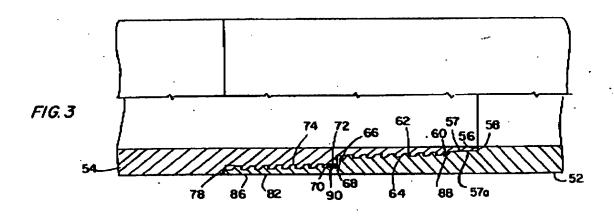
The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form

the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

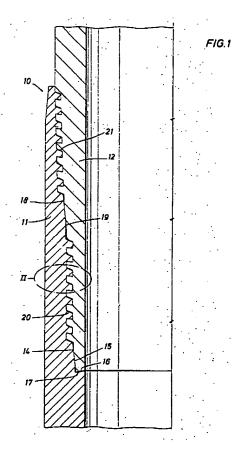
Claims 1-4,6-11,13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 4,696,498 to Church. The pipe connection of Church teaches and illustrates the features of the claimed present invention including a pin 54 formed with an elongated thread section 28 and sealing surface 24, elongated thread section including reverse locking pin threads (fig. 2A) along the entire length of the thread section; a box 52 formed for direct engagement box threads along an interior surface with threads and wherein the sealing surface 24 forms a metal-to-metal seal with the box 40 and the box and the pin threads engage along the entire length of the thread section for inherently preventing the exacerbation corrosion of the box threads. As to the dovetail arrangement in claim 7 and claim 10 see "j" in fig. 2B.



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Claims 1-4,6-11,13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 4,537,429 to Landriault. The pipe connection of Church teaches and illustrates the features of the claimed present invention including a pin 12 formed with an elongated thread section as shown in fig. 1 and sealing surface 15, elongated thread section including reverse locking pin threads (fig. 2) along the entire length of the thread section; a box 11 formed for direct engagement box threads along an interior surface with threads and wherein the sealing surface 15 forms a metal-to-metal seal with the box 11 and the box and the pin threads engage along the entire length of the thread section for inherently preventing the exacerbation corrosion of the box threads. As to the dovetail arrangement in claim 7 and claim 10 see 16, 17 in fig. 1.



Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or

described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject

matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole

would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary

skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived

by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S.

patent 4,537,429 to Church in view of U.S. patent 5,415,442 to Klementich. The Church device

as noted above discloses the claimed device however as to claims 5 and 12 the stab or front flank

is not disclosed to be at 45degrees. Klementich discloses that it is known in the art to provide a

similar type coupling with the stab or front flank is to be at 45degrees, see column 20, lines 25-

30. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to fabricate the front flank of the Church device to be at 45 degrees such as taught by

Klementich, in order to provide a more secure coupling for the inserted threaded pin member and

allow for proper interengagment of the pin and box members upon initial stabbing.

Claims 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent

4,537,429 to Church in view of U.S. patent 4,707,001 to Johnson. The Church device as noted

above discloses the claimed device however as to claim 15 the thread is only noted to be a single helical thread and not a multi-helical thread. Johnson discloses that it is known in the art to provide a similar type coupling with multi-path helical threads, see column 2, lines 15-60, in order to increase the strength of the joint and increase the possible load able to be carried by the joint. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fabricate the thread of the Church device to be a multiple helical thread such as taught by Johnson in order to increase the strength of the joint and increase the possible load able to be carried by the joint.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Nicholson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0829. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesdays thru Fridays from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola, can be reached on (703) 308-2686. The fax phone number for Technology Center 3600 is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-

1113.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

ekn

12/21/04

Eric K. Nicholson Primary Examiner

Technology Center 3600